

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-26 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-19 and 22-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and §103(a). Claims 20 and 21 were allowed. Initially Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the patentable subject matter of claims 20 and 21.

#### **I. 35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims and 35 U.S.C. § 103 Obviousness Rejection of Claims**

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by *Goodwin-Johansson* (US 6,456,420).

Claims 3-10 and 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over *Goodwin-Johansson* (US 6,456,420) in view of *Mitchell* (US 6,587,612).

Claims 11, 12, 17-19, 22-24 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Goodwin-Johansson* (US 6,456,420) in view of *Mitchell* (US 6,587,612) as applied to claims 1 and 15 above further in view of *Solgaard* (US 6,389,190).

Though Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-19 and 22-26, Applicants have canceled claims 1-19 and 22-26 rendering the rejections moot in order to permit allowed claims 20 and 21 to proceed to issuance. Applicants, however, reserve the right to pursue the cancelled claims in a continuation or divisional application.

**IV. Conclusion**

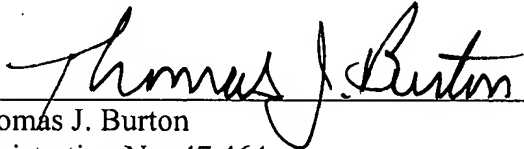
In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request early and favorable notification to that effect.

Should anything further be required, or if the prosecution of the present patent application may be advanced by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at (312) 876-8000.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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